



24

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SCOOBY APOCALYPSE

FOOLS
IN
LOVE!



GIFFEN
DeMATTEIS
OLLIFFE
NGUYEN
SHANNON
HI-FI

ALSO IN
THIS ISSUE:

THE
ADVENTURE
CONTINUES WITH

**SECRET
SQUIRREL!**

BATMAN

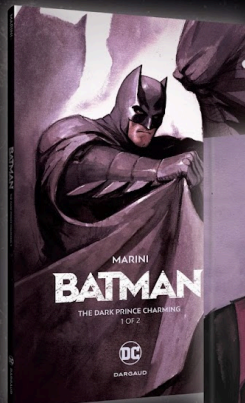
THE DARK PRINCE CHARMING 2



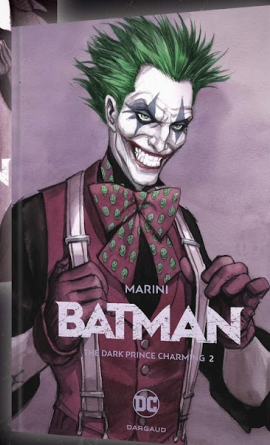
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comics master

ENRICO MARINI

presents a new vision
of Gotham!



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BATMAN: THE DARK PRINCE
CHARMING VOL. 1



THE CONCLUSION OF A
TWO-VOLUME GRAPHIC NOVEL
SERIES

MAY 2018



DARGAUD

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THE HENRY
HUDSON MALL.
ALBANY,
NEW YORK.

...WOW.
THAT'S ONE HELLUVA
BARRICADE WE BUILT.
FEEL LIKE I'M IN *LES*
MISERABLES.

EXCUSE ME,
SHAGGY?

Y'KNOW? THE
BROADWAY PLAY?
FRENCH REVOLUTION?
LOTS O' SINGING?

WE'RE TRYING TO
KEEP OUT A HORDE OF
MONSTERS AND YOU'RE
BLATHERING ABOUT
MUSICALS?

HEY! I'LL
HAVE YOU KNOW I
WAS IN ALL MY HIGH
SCHOOL PLAYS!

WON AN AWARD
IN MY JUNIOR YEAR
FOR PLAYIN' TEVYE IN
FIDDLER ON THE ROOF!
THAT'S WHEN I GREW
MY FIRST BEARD!

CAN
WE *FOCUS*,
PLEASE?

**SCOOBY
APOCALYPSE**

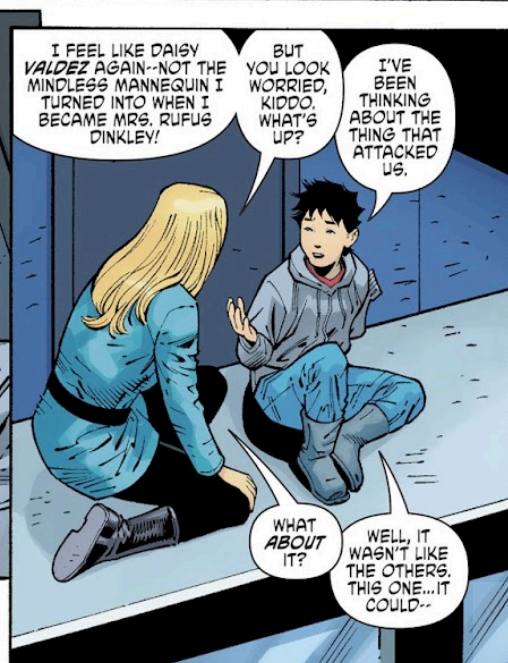
**PRELUDE TO
DISASTER!**

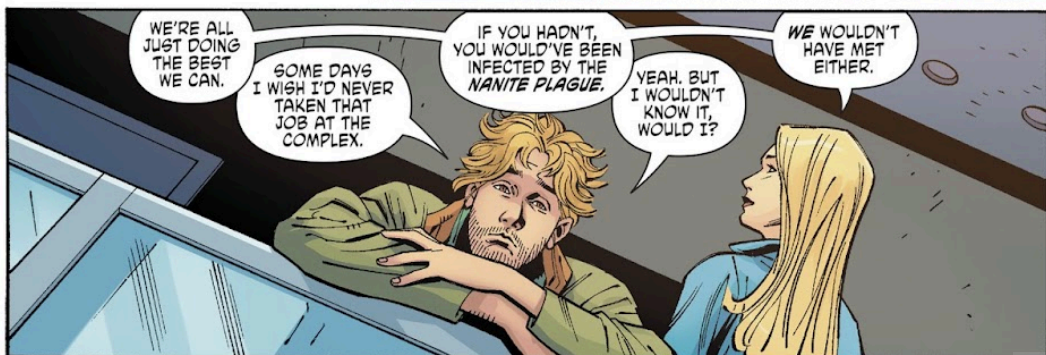
KEITH GIFFEN: PLOT-MEISTER
J.M. DEMATTEIS: WORD-MEISTER
PATRICK OLLIFFE: PENCIL-MEISTER
TOM NGUYEN AND ANDY OWENS: INK-MEISTERS

HI-FI: COLOR-MEISTER TRAVIS LANHAM: LETTER-MEISTER LIZ ERICKSON: ASSISTANT-MEISTER
JILL THOMPSON: COVER-MEISTER TREVOR HAIRSINE AND ANTOINE FABELA: VARIANT-MEISTERS
HARVEY RICHARDS: MEISTER JIM CHADWICK: MEISTER OF MEISTERS









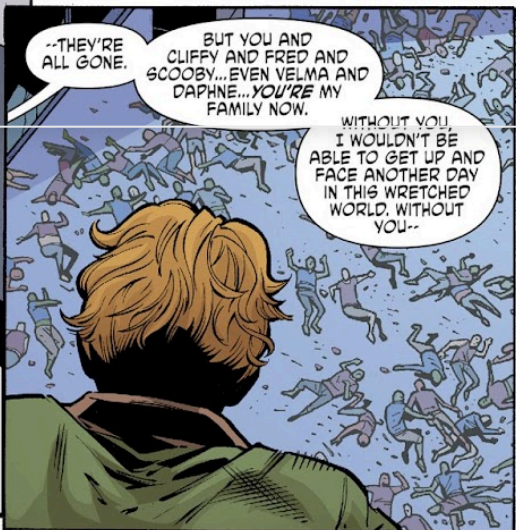


AND *THAT'S* GOT TO COUNT FOR SOMETHING.

YEAH. YEAH, IT DOES. IN FACT, I--

FINDING YOU... *ALL* OF YOU... WAS THE BEST THING THAT'S HAPPENED TO ME IN YEARS.

I WAS EXTREMELY CLOSE WITH MY FAMILY GROWING UP, BUT RUFUS... HE DRAGGED ME INTO HIS WORLD. LOCKED OUT EVERYONE I LOVED. AND NOW--



--THEY'RE ALL GONE.

BUT YOU AND CLIFFY AND FRED AND SCOOPY... EVEN VELMA AND DAPHNE... YOU'RE MY FAMILY NOW.

WITHOUT YOU, I WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO GET UP AND FACE ANOTHER DAY IN THIS WRETCHED WORLD. WITHOUT YOU--



--I WOULDN'T HAVE ANY HOPE.

FAMILY, HUH? SO I'M... WHAT? LIKE YOUR *BROTHER* OR SOMETHIN'?

WHAT YOU ARE TO ME, SHAGGY, IS--

YOU ARE *INSUFFERABLY* ARROGANT!



ME? LOOK UP ARROGANCE IN THE DICTIONARY AND THERE'S A PICTURE OF YOUR WHOLE DAMN FAMILY!

SMEK

DIDN'T YOUR MOTHER EVER TEACH YOU NOT TO HIT? WHAT THE HELL IS WRONG WITH YOU?

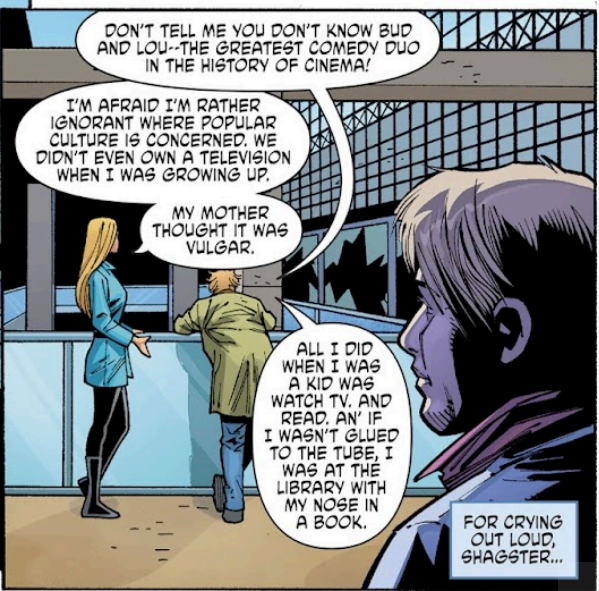


DID YOU JUST INSULT MY MOTHER?

SMEK

I SWEAR, THOSE TWO ARE TURNIN' INTO *ABBOTT AND COSTELLO*!

WHO?



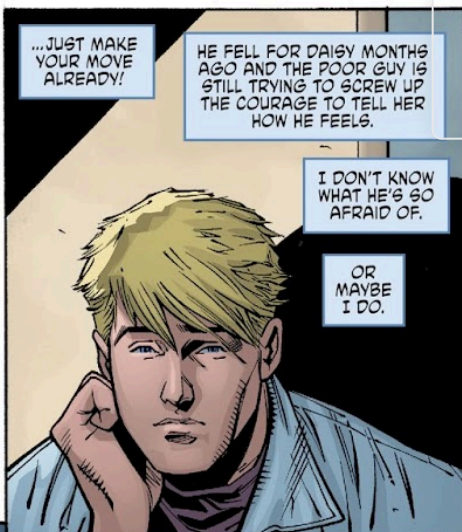
DON'T TELL ME YOU DON'T KNOW BUD AND LOU--THE GREATEST COMEDY DUO IN THE HISTORY OF CINEMA!

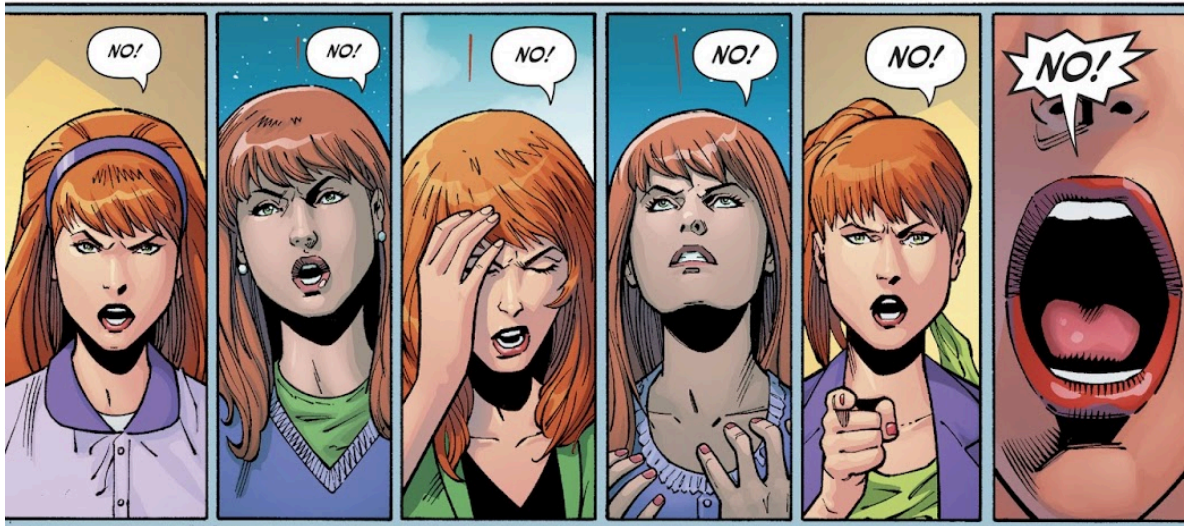
I'M AFRAID I'M RATHER IGNORANT WHERE POPULAR CULTURE IS CONCERNED. WE DIDN'T EVEN OWN A TELEVISION WHEN I WAS GROWING UP.

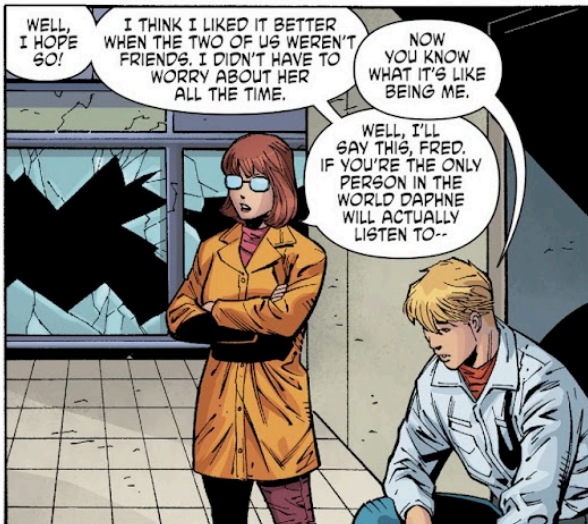
MY MOTHER THOUGHT IT WAS VULGAR.

ALL I DID WHEN I WAS A KID WAS WATCH TV. AND READ. AN' IF I WASN'T GLUED TO THE TUBE, I WAS AT THE LIBRARY WITH MY NOSE IN A BOOK.

FOR CRYING OUT LOUD, SHAGSTER...







"--SHE MAY
BE RIGHT!"

"...THOSE
BEASTIES OUTSIDE
SURE DO GET
AGITATED WHEN THE
CONSUMERITES
ARE FIGHTIN'!"

AGITATED,
SHAGGY--AND
FRIGHTENED, TOO.
FRIGHTENED TO
EVEN *THINK* ABOUT
COMING IN
HERE.

SURE,
DOC. BUT WHAT
HAPPENS AFTER THE
CONSUMERITES'RE
GONE?

WE TAKE
THE REST OF
THEM OUT.

YOU MAKE
IT SOUND SO
EASY, DAPH.

NOTHING IN THIS
LIFE IS EASY, FRED. YOU
WANT SOMETHING, YOU'VE
GOT TO WORK FOR IT.
THAT'S WHAT MY FATHER
ALWAYS SAID.

HENRY HUDSON MALL

MYSTERY
MACHINE





YOUR
POPS SOUNDS
LIKE A REALLY
CHEERFUL
DUDE.

HE WAS A
GREAT MAN. I
OWE EVERYTHING
THAT I AM TO
HIM.

I WOULDN'T
BE SO PROUD OF
THAT FACT.

WHAT'D
YOU SAY,
DINKLEY?

DON'T YOU
TWO START AGAIN.
AND KEEP YOUR
VOICES DOWN.



WE DON'T
WANT THOSE
CONSUMERITES
NOTICING US.

WHEN
THEY'RE ENGAGED
WITH EACH OTHER, THEY
DON'T APPEAR TO BE
AWARE OF ANYTHING
ELSE.

THEIR
MALL WAR IS
APPARENTLY ALL
CONSUMING.

I
STILL SAY
WE SHOULD
FINISH THEM
OFF NOW.



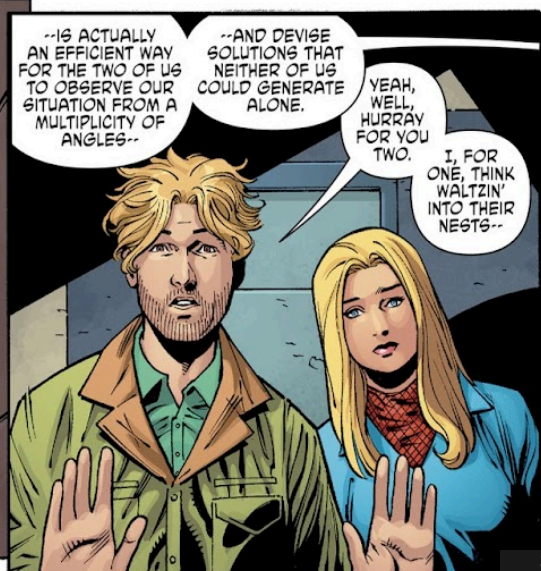
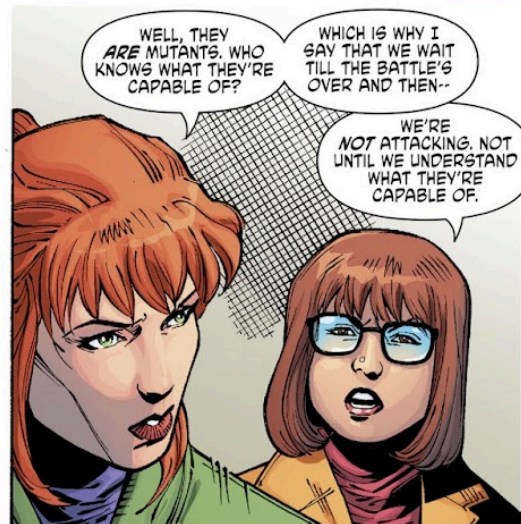
I THOUGHT I
TALKED YOU OUT
OF THAT IDIOTIC
IDEA.

YEAH.
FOR THE
MOMENT.

Y'KNOW, I *SAW*
THIS MOVIE: POST-
APOCALYPTIC SURVIVORS
TRAPPED IN A MALL. DOESN'T
END WELL.

THIS ISN'T
A MOVIE,
SHAGGY.
IT'S REAL
LIFE.

COULDA
FOOLED
ME!





"--IS, LIKE, THE WORST IDEA EVER."

"...WELL, HERE WE ARE WALTZING INTO THEIR NESTS!"

"IF YOU'RE SCARED, FRED, THEN WHY DID YOU VOLUNTEER TO COME ALONG?"

"FIRST OF ALL, IF I *WEREN'T* SCARED WALKING INTO A SITUATION LIKE THIS I'D BE INSANE."

"I'M NOT SCARED."



"PROVING MY POINT."

"AND SECOND OF ALL...?"

"YOU HAVE TO ASK?"

"IF YOU DON'T KNOW BY NOW THAT I'D FOLLOW YOU INTO THE BOWELS OF HELL, DAPH, THEN YOU'RE NOT ONLY INSANE--YOU'RE STUPID!"

"DO YOU...DO YOU REALLY THINK I'M CRAZY, FRED?"



"WHAT? NO."

"BUT, HONESTLY, DAPH--YOU'VE BEEN ACTING A LITTLE WEIRD LATELY. EVEN FOR YOU."

"HOW SO?"

"YOU'VE BEEN SMACKING VELMA AROUND LIKE YOU'RE MOE AND SHE'S *SHEMP*."

"OH, IT'S ALL IN GOOD FUN."

"AND THAT BLOODY NOSE YOU GAVE SHAGGY?"

"IT WAS ALL IN GOOD--"

"OH, I SEE WHAT YOU MEAN."



"Y'KNOW, FRED, WHEN I WAS A KID MY *FATHER* USED TO SMACK ME AROUND LIKE THAT."

"WHAT? THAT'S AWFUL."

"NEVER ENOUGH TO REALLY HURT ME. I GUESS HE THOUGHT IT WOULD TOUGHEN ME UP."

"HOW COME YOU NEVER TOLD ME?"

"I NEVER REALLY THOUGHT ABOUT IT. IT WAS JUST...DAD'S WAY."

"YEAH, WELL, 'DAD'S WAY' WAS CRUEL AND ABUSIVE."

"MAYBE SO. BUT HE WAS ALSO THE STRONGEST PERSON I'VE EVER KNOWN."



"RIGHT. AND WITH ALL THE STRESS YOU'VE BEEN UNDER...HAVING TO STEP INTO A LEADERSHIP POSITION, TRYING TO WATCH OUT FOR ALL OF US--"

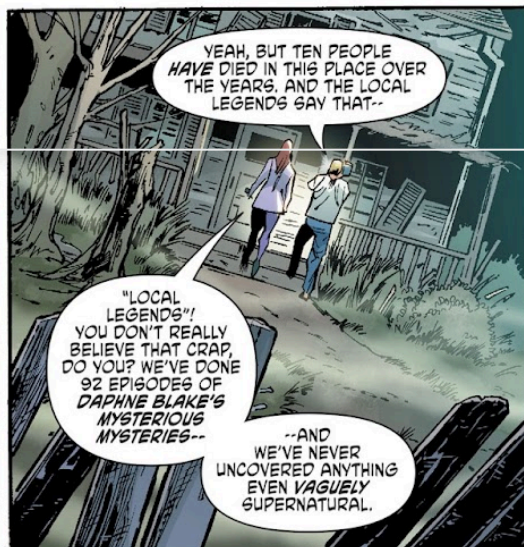
"--YOU'VE BEEN TRYING TO ACT *MORE* LIKE YOUR FATHER AND--"

"ARE YOU *PSYCHOANALYZING* ME?"

"MAYBE A LITTLE."

"*SIGH*: I SHOULD'VE BROUGHT SHAGGY."







"--BUT SOMETHIN'
REALLY BIG JUST
HAPPENED!"

...OKAY,
LET'S START
COUNTING
HEADS--

WAIT!
YOU REALLY
SAID YEE?
YOU'RE NOT
JOKING?

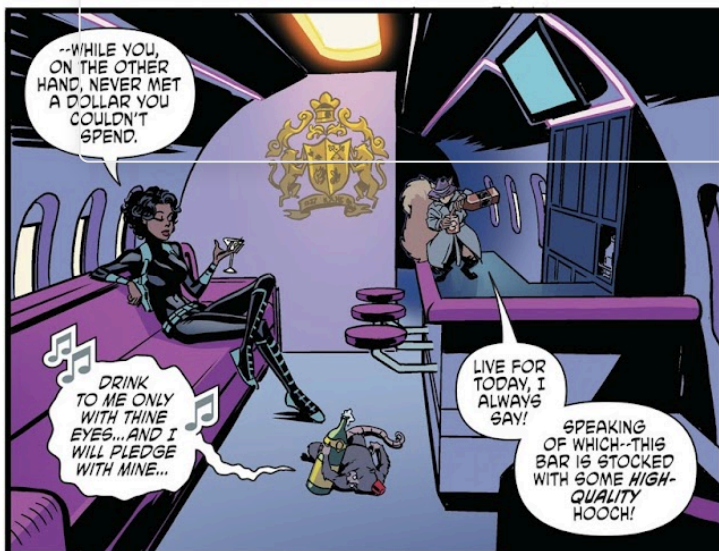
NO, I'M
NOT JOKING.
AND KEEP YOUR
DAMN VOICE
DOWN--

CJNickel

--BECAUSE
IF THOSE THINGS
REALIZE THAT
WE'RE HERE--

--IT'S
GONNA BE THE
SHORTEST
ENGAGEMENT
EVER!

NEXT: TRAGEDY!





I HAVE HAD IT WITH--

NO! IF YOU BREAK HIM I MIGHT NEVER BE ABLE TO PUT HIM BACK TOGETHER!

OUT OF THE WAY, OOO, OR YOU'RE NEXT!

I AM AFRAID--



SECRET SQUIRREL in... BETRAYED!

--THAT YOU ARE ALL NEXT!

WHO THE BLOODY HELL?

IT IS I--
LE LOUP ASTUCIEUX!
THE WILY WOLF!

NOT AN EXACT TRANSLATION, BUT IT'S CLOSE ENOUGH.

Editor supreme HARVEY RICHARDS* presents:

GIFFEN & DeMATTEIS: writers

KELSEY SHANNON: art and colors

TRAVIS LANHAM: letters LIZ ERICKSON: asst. editor

JIM CHADWICK: drives an Aston Martin with an ejector seat

*SOMETIMES YOU'VE JUST GOT TO LET YOUR EDITOR KNOW YOU APPRECIATE HIM.



BEFORE WE LEFT THE GROUND, I MURDERED YOUR PILOT! PLANTED A BOMB ON THIS PLANE--WHICH WILL EXPLODE IN TWO MINUTES!

AND NOW, MY HATED ARCH-ENEMY, AFTER YEARS OF DANCING ACROSS CONTINENTS... EACH OF US TRYING DESPERATELY TO OUTWIT THE OTHER--



--THE TIME HAS COME FOR OUR FINAL ENCOUNTER! ON THIS DAY, AGENT OOO, WE WILL PERISH TOGETHER--

--IN A BURST OF FLAME AND FURY!

WHO IS THIS GUY?

DAMNED IF I KNOW!



FWAKA-THOOOON

MOROCCO
OL' BUDDY--
YOU HAD THAT
PARACHUTE
ON YOU THE
WHOLE
TIME?

I MAY OFTEN
BE INEBRIATED--BUT
I AM *~HICCUP~* NEVER
UNPREPARED!

WELL
PLAYED,
MATE!

COULD BE
YOU'RE NOT SO
USELESS AFTER
ALL!

SO WHERE
ARE WE?

ACCORDING TO
THE TRACKER--

--NOT FAR FROM
THE COORDINATES
OUR INFORMANT
GAVE US.

HEADQUARTERS
OF THE BRAIN
ROBBERS SHOULD
BE ABOUT A MILE UP
THE MOUNTAIN. JUST
LET ME ADJUST
THE GPS TO--

I...UH...
DON'T THINK
YOU'LL NEED
THE GPS TO
FIND 'EM,
BEA.

WHY
NOT?





"We're all puppets, Laurie.
I'm just a puppet who can see the strings."

DR. MANHATTAN



A TWELVE ISSUE DELUXE SERIES

**GEOFF JOHNS • GARY FRANK
BRAD ANDERSON**

BENDIS

IS COMING!

BRIAN MICHAEL BENDIS ON COMING TO DC

When I was first approached by DC, there was a lot of speculation about what I would do and what characters I'm interested in. It surprised some people but at the top of my list... was Superman. It turns out I was a little Jewish boy from Cleveland and my connection to Superman is very, very deep.

As I considered making this big DC change in my life, I was back in Cleveland (where Superman was created by Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster) for my brother's wedding. I went to visit my friend John [Skrtic] who is a big part of the Cleveland Public Library—we grew up together—and he had a Superman exhibition taking up the entire front hall of the library. I walked in there and it was like the universe was speaking to me, telling me, "Oh, you've got to do this!" It flooded back to me in the biggest way possible and here we are.

In between ACTION COMICS #1000 and the upcoming MAN OF STEEL six-issue weekly limited series, I'm writing a special chapter of DC NATION #0 with—I'm so excited to say these words out loud—very special art by José Luis García-López, who came out of semi-retirement to do this with me. That storyline will set up a lot of what's going to be going on in ACTION COMICS. We'll dig really deep into what's going on at the *Daily Planet*, and introduce some new cast members at the *Daily Planet* and some new villains in Metropolis.



Don't miss
ACTION COMICS #1000
on sale **APRIL 18**
and
DC NATION #0
on **MAY 2!**



My first appearance in DC Comics will be ACTION COMICS #1000. It was a lovely offer from [DC Comics Publisher] Dan DiDio when we were discussing my plans and what I could or couldn't do. He called me up the next day and he goes, "I don't want to be greedy or rush you, but we happen to have this once-in-a-lifetime Superman situation going on with ACTION COMICS #1000". And I have always LOVED the DC anniversary editions.



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SON OF ULTRON

"THIS FAN...
THIS MONSTER!"

